

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the subject application. The Office Action of June 6, 2007 has been received and contents carefully reviewed.

By this Amendment, claim 1 has been amended. Accordingly, claims 1 and 24-32 are currently pending in the present application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

As a preliminary matter, Applicants note that claims 1 and 24-32 are currently pending. However, the Office Action states that only claims 1 and 24-26 are pending. Appropriate correction is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Sukenori et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,943,106); claim 25 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sukenori et al. in view of Takeda et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,724,452); and claim 26 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sukenori et al. in view of Yamamoto et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,657,100). These rejections are respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Claim 1 is allowable over the cited references in that claim 1 recites a combination of elements including, for example, "...wherein each pixel region has a multi-domain structure which includes a dielectric structure or a slit... wherein the auxiliary electrode line is formed between the pixel electrode and the data line at an outside of the pixel electrode in the pixel region and the auxiliary electrode is spaced apart from the data line." None of the cited references, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1, and claims 24-32, which depend therefrom, are allowable over the cited references.

On page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner refers to reference number 31 as teaching the dielectric structure recited in claim 1. However, reference number 31 in Sukenori et al. is a light shielding film made of Cr, which is a type of metal different from a dielectric material.

Also, the Examiner refers to a portion of the capacitor pattern 6a in Figs. 1, 2 and 4A of

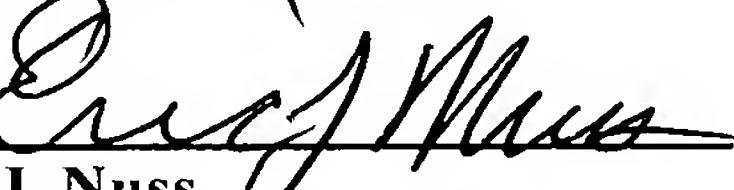
Sukenori et al. as teaching the auxiliary electrode recited in claim 1. The capacitor patterns 6a in Figs. 1 and 2 extend from the capacitor bus line 2, and thus are NOT electrically connected to any of the control bus lines 1 in Sukenori et al. Although the capacitor pattern 6a in Fig. 4A of Sukenori et al. may be electrically connected to the control bus line 1, it is NOT formed between the pixel electrode 5 and the data bus line 3 at an outside of the pixel electrode 5 in the pixel region. For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request the patentability of the pending claims be reconsidered.

Applicants believe the application is in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited. If the Examiner deems that a telephone conference would further the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number (202) 496-7500. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911.

Dated: 6 September 2007

Respectfully submitted,

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